

February 19, 2023

Hello,

I am writing in opposition to *HB5653* AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXCISE TAX ON AMMUNITION TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY GUN VIOLENCE AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM GRANTS.

I oppose HB 5653. While the tax on ammunition will be levied on businesses it will be passed on to consumers raising the price of ammunition for all legal gun owners.

My main concerns with this increase in prices are twofold.

The first is legal gun owners will not be able to properly train with their firearms. This will lead to more people who legally carry firearms having more firearm related accidents from mishandling their firearms.

My second concern is that this tax will disproportionately affect people who are disadvantaged and living in poverty. People who are social and economically disadvantaged or on fixed incomes will be more adversely affected by this tax.

Ammunition already has an extra 11% tax for rifle ammunition and 10% for handgun ammunition. This extra tax may increase prices enough that people will seek ammunition out of state which will lead to less sales tax revenue for the state.

Thank you,
John Leone.
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